AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for processing print jobs in a network ~~containing~~ comprising: •

a plurality of client stations adapted to submit print jobs, wherein each of the client stations includes means for generating and submitting a print account job which is generated as a second print job, the print account job containing account information of a corresponding print job and linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier;~~, and~~

at least one printing device ~~containing~~ including a control unit and a printer, the control unit including storage means for storing the print jobs and the corresponding print account jobs submitted from the client stations to the printing device; and~~, which comprises~~

~~means for generating and submitting a print account job containing account information of a print job, which print account job is generated as a second print job, linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier, and~~

means for validating the stored print jobs for printing, wherein said validating means receives the print account jobs and validates a corresponding print job for printing in the case a valid print account job generated as the second print job has been received.

2. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the client station comprises a job submitter including said means for generating and submitting the print account jobs.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein a server station is adapted to intercept a submitted print job, said server station comprising means for generating and submitting a print account job containing account information of the intercepted print job, wherein the print account job is linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 3, wherein the server station is adapted to communicate with a client station to obtain account information of the intercepted print job for insertion in the print account job.

5. (Currently Amended) The system according claim 1, wherein a printer server comprises said means for validating the stored print jobs for printing, and wherein said validating means validates a print job by generating a print validation command for a corresponding print job and submitting the print validation command to the printing device.

6. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the control unit of the printing device is adapted to receive the print jobs and the corresponding print account jobs, and wherein said validating means are part of the control unit of the printing device.

7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein the control unit of the printing device stores all submitted print and account jobs in a holding queue in the storage means, said control unit being arranged to check stored print and account jobs in order to match linked print and account jobs, so that in the case where a print job is matched with an account

job, the account information is checked, and if the account information is valid, the print job is removed from the holding queue and validated for printing and the account job is removed from the holding queue and the account information is stored in the storage means wherein the storage means includes a holding queue, a printing queue and an account log file, and wherein the control unit moves the validated print job from the holding queue to the printing queue to be printed and moves the print account job to the account log file in the case the valid print account job has been received.

8. (Currently Amended) A printing device, comprising:

a control unit; and

a printer,

wherein the control unit including is adapted to receive a print job, and a corresponding print account job generated as a second print job, the control unit including:

storage means for storing print jobs the print job and the corresponding print account job in a holding queue; the control unit of the printing device being adapted to receive print jobs and print account jobs generated as a second print job, wherein the control unit contains

means for validating the stored print jobs job for printing, said validating means being adapted to receive the corresponding print account jobs job and validate a correspondingthe print job for printing in case a validthe corresponding print account job generated as the second print job is validhas been received.

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9. (Currently Amended) The printing device according to claim 8, ~~wherein the control unit stores all submitted print and account jobs in a holding queue in the storage means, said control unit being arranged to check stored print and account jobs in order to match linked print and account jobs, wherein in the case where a print job is matched with an account job, account information is checked and if the account information is valid, the print job is removed from the holding queue and validated for printing and the account job is removed from the holding queue and the account information is stored in the storage means~~ wherein the storage means further includes a printing queue and an account log file, and wherein the control unit moves the validated print job from the holding queue to the printing queue to be printed and moves the corresponding print account job to the account log file in the case the corresponding print account job is valid.

10. (Original) A client station for use in a system for processing print jobs according to claim 1, the client station being adapted to submit print jobs, wherein a job submitter is provided, including means for generating and submitting a print account job containing account information of a print job, the print account job being linked to the corresponding print job by a linking identifier.

11. (Original) A server station for use in a system according to claim 1, wherein the server station is adapted to intercept a submitted print job, the server station comprising means for generating and submitting a print account job containing account information of the intercepted print job, wherein the print account job is linked to the corresponding print job by a

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linking identifier.

12. (Original) The server station according to claim 11, which is adapted to communicate with a client station to obtain account information of the intercepted print job for insertion in the print account job.

13. (Original) A printer server for use in a system according to claim 1, including means for validating stored print jobs for printing, wherein the validating means validates a print job by generating a print validation command for a corresponding print job and submitting the print validation command to a printing device.

14. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for a computer to operate as a client station in the system of claim 1 when said program runs on the computer.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for a computer to operate as a control unit of the printing device in the system of claim 1 when said program runs on the computer.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for directing a computer to operate as a server station in the system of claim 1 when said program runs on the computer.

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17. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium comprising program instructions for directing a computer to operate as a printer server in the system of claim 1 when said program runs on the computer.

18. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the linking identifier is a job name in a job name field of the second print job.

19. (New) The printing device according to claim 8, wherein the corresponding print account job contains account information of the print job and is linked to the print jobs by a linking identifier, and the linking identifier is a job name in a job name field of the second print job.

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